Electrotherapy method utilizing patient dependent electrical parameters

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The invention provides a method for delivering electrotherapy to a patient through electrodes connected to a plurality of capacitors, including the steps of discharging at least one of the capacitors across the electrodes to deliver electrical energy to the patient, monitoring a patient-dependent electrical parameter (such as voltage, current or charge) during the discharging step, and adjusting energy delivered to the patient based on a value of the electrical parameter. The adjusting step may include selecting a serial or parallel arrangement for the capacitors based on a value of the electrical parameter. In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for delivering electrotherapy to a patient through electrodes connectable to a plurality of capacitors including the steps of discharging at least one of the capacitors across the electrodes to deliver electrical energy to the patient in a waveform having at least a first phase and a second phase, monitoring a patient-dependent electrical parameter (such as voltage, current or charge) during the discharging step, and modifying second phase initial voltage based on a value of the electrical parameter. The adjusting step may include selecting a serial or a parallel arrangement for the capacitors based on a value of the electrical parameter.